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Around the Nation

Watergate Figure Loses Suit Against Tabloid

MIAMI, Feb. 6 (AP) — A Federal jury today decided that E. Howard Hunt Jr. was not libeled in an article by a former agent of the Central Intelligence Agency that suggested that Mr. Hunt was part of a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy.

A six-member jury found in favor of Liberty Lobby, a conservative Washington group that publishes The Spotlight, the tabloid in which the article appeared in 1978. Mr. Hunt, who was one of the men arrested in the break-in at the Democratic National Commit-

tee's headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington in 1972, was seeking \$1 million in damages.

The suit dealt with an article by Victor Marchetti, a former C.I.A. agent, that contended that a 1966 C.I.A. memorandum said Mr. Hunt was in Dallas the day Mr. Kennedy was slain and suggested that he had a role in the murder.